

NH Bureau of EMS-Bulletin

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Message from the Bureau Chief

There has been some confusion over the term "Transition Program". We have been using the term Transition Modules for many years to describe the education NH EMS Providers are required to complete to utilize skills that are not taught in the National Standard Curriculum. An example is blood glucose monitoring by EMT-Basics.

The problem is that the National Registry of EMT's has decided to use the term Transition also. The Registry's use of the term is in relation to the new changes in the levels of EMS Providers. For example a "Transition Program" will be required for a current NREMT-Basic to be certified at the new level NR Emergency Medical Technician.

Online applications for National Registry recertification ask if a transition course has been completed. Does that mean a NH Transition Module or a Transition Course to upgrade to the new level? It's confusing. The answer is: The Registry does **not** mean the NH Transition Module, so please do not check "yes".

The NH Bureau of EMS is going to stop using the term Transition Module. We are changing the term to **NH Scope of Practice Module**, which we think more accurately reflects the purpose and will reduce the confusion, once we get used to it.

Field Services

Get your applications in!!! As of March 9, 2012 – there are over 1400 providers whose licenses are due to expire on 3/31/12.

EMS Week 2012 is fast approaching. The National Theme is, "EMS-More than a Job: A Calling". The dates for the week of recognition is May 20 -26, 2012. Planning guides can be viewed and downloaded from the American College Of Emergency Physicians website: <http://www.acep.org/emsweek> (The Bureau no longer distributes these guides). Please let the Bureau know if your organization is planning an EMS Week event!!

The National Honor Guard Academy's (NHGA) week long "Boot Camp" program is scheduled to be held at the Richard M Flynn Fire Academy October 21 – 26, 2012. More information and registration forms will be available in the next few weeks. See the NHGA website for program description: http://nationalhonorguardacademy.com/Course_Description.html

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Education Section

Eric Perry has left the NH Bureau of EMS after seven years of dedicated service. Please join us in extending appreciation to Eric for his dedication to excellence in EMS education. We wish him the best.

Upcoming Workshop for EMS Instructors

The National EMS Education Standards Workshops will be held April 26, 27, 28th from 8AM -5PM at the NH Fire Academy. This is a one-day workshop repeated each day. All NH I/Cs must attend one of these workshops to be able to teach to the new Education Standards and levels of EMR, EMT, AEMT and Paramedic. Following attendance of this workshop, I/Cs will be able to teach to the new ED Standards beginning May 1st.

EMT-I Conversion Planning

We are making significant progress on our plans to assist NH EMT-I's to move to the new Advanced EMT level. We thank all those who have participated in the planning process and particularly those who are working on the many details. For additional information please go to the Bureau of EMS website at:

<http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/EMT-IConversionProcessInformation.html>

Advanced Life Support

Protocol Blog: <http://www.nhoodle.nh.gov/protocols/>

The protocol blog is up and running! It is broken down into 3 sections:

1. Protocols currently being reviewed by the Protocol Committee.
2. Protocols awaiting Medical Control Board approval.
3. Protocols that have been approved by the Medical Control Board.

Please visit the blog. If you have suggestions please leave them in the commentary section.

Prehospital Medication Exchange

After several meetings with the NH Board of Pharmacy they agreed to reverse their earlier ruling regarding the exchange of medications between transporting and non-transporting EMS Units. Medication exchange can resume between agencies that have written agreements to do so. Please be careful not to

accept an expired medication and make sure you are giving / getting the right medication(s). Narcotic medications CANNOT be exchanged.

EMS at Non-911 Events

The group looking into EMS at Non-911 Events met last week to continue working on a non-urgent care protocol to handle walk-in "band-aid" type conditions. Anything that exceeds the scope of that protocol would move the incident up to the 911 system. Additionally, the committee is working on a method of documentation for these patient contacts.

STEMI/Stroke Summit:

Plans continue for our STEMI/Stroke Summit on June 5, 2012. Please watch the list serve and the Division's Facebook page as the online registration information will be coming out soon!

Trauma & Emergency Preparedness



Trauma Hospital Assignments

Last month Cottage Hospital successfully completed their site review and received unanimous support from the Trauma Medical Review Committee to be recognized as an Adult and Pediatric Level IV Trauma Hospital. This month, Elliot Hospital will be reviewed as our first Level II Adult Trauma Hospital under the new NH State Trauma Plan. As a Level II Adult Trauma Hospital, Elliot is committing to provide enhanced trauma care and 24 hour availability of surgical specialists. We are excited to see trauma care advancing in our state.

Injury Prevention

The NH Falls Prevention Task Force held its annual meeting to review statewide data on falls among our elderly residents. Falls continue to be a major cause of injury seen by pre-hospital providers. If you are interested in hearing how some local agencies are working to solve this problem, contact Angela Shepard at angela.shepard@dos.nh.gov

Research & Quality Management

Help Desk Function

There is now a help desk function on TEMSIS and NHOODLE for EMS providers and Administrators to submit help requests. These can be requests related to technical problems or just general issues and questions about either TEMSIS or NHOODLE. This is an effort to continue to improve our customer service. Please be sure to include your full name and correct contact information so we may respond to your request in a timely manner. Links for the help desk can be found on the TEMSIS login and home pages and on the NHOODLE site.

Remember March 31, 2012!!